

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

REMARKS

Claim 6 and 10-12 stand rejected under § 103 on the basis of Matsuoka et al. and Min. Applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons previously given, and for the following reasons.

The examiner acknowledges that Matsuoka does not disclose a hinge mechanism attached to a frame via screw holes, and relies on Min for this feature. However, Min does not disclose this feature. As seen in Fig. 4 below, the liquid crystal panel 11 is

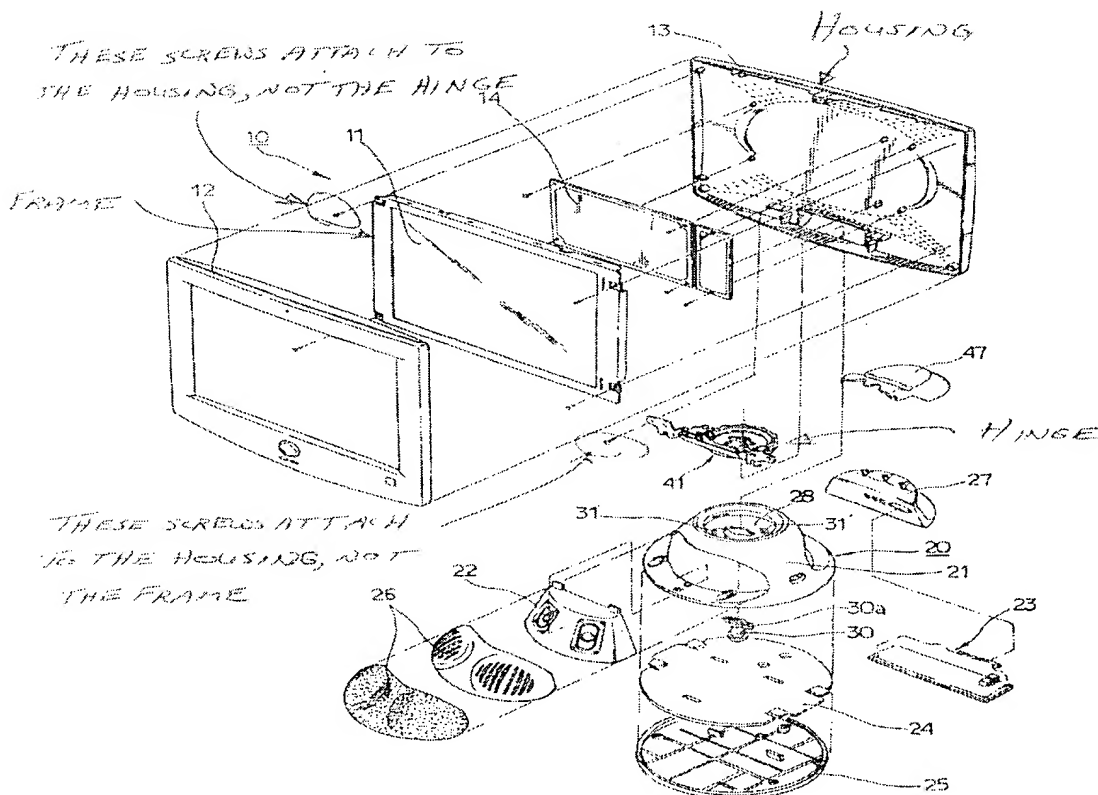
U.S. Patent

Feb. 15, 2000

Sheet 3 of 7

6,024,335

FIG. 4



attached to a frame but the hinge mechanism 41 is secured to the housing member 13. The hinge mechanism is not directly attached to the frame via screw holes in the frame, as in amended claim 6. Thus, Min suffers from the problem addressed and solved by applicants, i.e., eliminating the need for heavy, reinforced housings.

Neither reference alone or in combination, discloses or suggests a hinge mechanism attached directly to a frame via screw holes in the frame, with the housing being defined as a separate element in the present claims. The absence of this feature in both references is strong evidence of nonobviousness. In fact, the examiner has not made even a *prima facie* case of obviousness due to this deficiency.

The rejection of dependent claims 10 and 12 is traversed for the reasons given with respect to claim 6. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

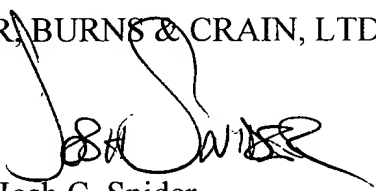
Claims 7, 9 and 13 stand rejected under § 103 on the basis of Matsuoka, Min, and JP '516. Applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons given with respect to claim 6, as well. Withdrawal is requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By


Josh C. Snider

Registration No. 47,954

Customer No. 24978

November 22, 2005

300 South Wacker Drive

Suite 2500

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: (312) 360-0080

Facsimile: (312) 360-9315

P:\DOCS\4319\65577\9P6303.DOC